amount will not be recovered as long as Shri Satish Khurana is there.

Besides financial bunglings, manipulation of figures and a statistics of REC operations have also been detected. Fond of epithets like 'record', 'highest' etc., he manoeuvers the figures in such a way that REC's otherwise dismal performance looks ever brighter. A lot of money is being given to the SEBs to manage over-reporting of the work done in village electrification and pumset energisation.

The exact figures of REC achievements after the year 1989-90 ending have not yet seen the light of day. Long before an REC project is actually prepared, it is given a number and approved on paper and money released to SEV, which is REC's usual practice. As it suits SEBs, they do not raise voice against this malpractice.

That Shri Satish Khurana possessed the back of paying to the political bosses is also quite well-known. People have not yet forgotten how he nurtured the constituencies of Mr. Buta Singh and Shri Kalpnath Rai, ex-Union Ministers and till now Shri Khurana has involved their henchmen in many shady deals in REC.

Facts above reveal that things are not straight in REC and a lot of shady deals have wroght havoc on the organisation. Loss to the exchequer solely at the hands of Shri Satish Khurana runs into several crores of rupees.

Hence, Madam, I intend to move this matter to the Minister for Energy and Power to investigate the matter through CBI to save the country from further loss to the exchequer.

Move to punish Tennis Star Vijay Amritraj by All India Tennis Association

SHRI V. GOPALSAMY (Tamil Nadu): Madam, through you I would like to draw the attention of the Huouse and the Government to a serious matter. Madam, there is a move by the All India Tennis Association to suspend the international tennis star Vijay Amritraj. It was reported by Doordarshan and also in the press that All India Tennis Association Executive Committee has framed certain charges and proceedings to supsend Vijay Amritraj, debarring him from playing in India. In this case they have issued a circular also to honorary secretaries of all State and other affiliated units, advising them not to arrange any tournament or exhibition match or any other competition in which Vijay Amritraj is to participate.

Madam, the Tennis Association of Karnataka has passed a resolution unanimously condemning the move of the All-India Tennis Association because the move has caused considerably resentment and anger among the sportsmen and sport-loving people all over India. It is a slander against one of the finest tennis players of the world who has brought name, fame, glory and credit to this country.

India should feel proud that Vijay Amritraj has been made the President of the ATP Tour, Player Council—a prestigious institution. No Indian so far has enjoyed such a privilege. No Asian so far has enjoyed such a privilege. Instead of applauding, encouraging and congratulating him, for petty reasons, the Honorary Secretary-General of All India Tennis Association, Mr. Khanna, has taken such a sinister move to denigrate Vijay Amritraj on charges which are flimsy, false, misrepresented and exaggerated.

[Shri V. Gopalsamy]

Vijay Amritraj has served India in Davis Cup for almost 20 years and he has played 16 straight Wimbledons. In 1971, when he played against Borg, who became the champion at Wimbledon, all the eyes were on Vijay Amritraj. He played five sets and he lost the match by only two points. Then he was given the ITF Award for service to the game and he was the first Asian to win the UNESCO fair-play trophy. He played in the Olympics and has put up a non-profit tennis programme BAT. Whenever he used to play in the Wimbledon, even the members of the family of the Queen used to watch and applaud our Vijay Amritraj.

In the last Davis Cup, in the crucial match against Argentina, he mesmerised the audience. Nobody expected Vijay to defeat the star players of Argentina. It is he who was responsible for putting India in the finals of the Davis Cup.

Now a person who is in the All-India Tennis Association and who has never touched a racket in his lifetime, has done this for his own prejudicial attitude. Madam, I would like to quote what the ATP Tour of the United States, an international forum, has to say on this:

"Mr. Amritraj has long been associated with the promotion and development of tennis in India and is one of the most eloquent ambassadors for the sport world-wide. Our review of these charges shows them to be false, petty and vindictive. One would think with the many needs for developing tennis and tennis players in India, the AITA would have better interests than slandering one of the finest and most widely regarded players in India and in tennis history."

None of the charges has any substance and validity. They are absurd, flimsy and cooked up. Pronouncing the 'suspension' of an international sports personality like Vijay Amritraj on such flimsy and made-up charges is nothing short of humiliating and condemning the entire sports fraternity of India. This pronouncement carried prominently by the TV, Indian and international Press must have caused immense harm to the reputation and honour of Vijay. This itself is distressing. What is worse, this has brought down the country's image in the international sports circles.

This, in fact, brings into focus the ailment afflicting sports in India to which, many times, we have drawn the attention of the House. By and large, Sports Associations in India are dominated by self-seekers who have their self-interests in mind rather than the sport they are supposed to serve. In their sense of insecurity and insincerity, they do not want the sports to come up, or sportsmen to shine, lest they are sidelined. This is the typical perverse attitude that we see in India in many walks of life, particularly in the field of sports. These self-seeking sports administrators lose no time or opportunity to keep sportsmen on tenterhooks by bully and bluster. Barring the really tough and brave ones, the lot of Indian sportsmen and women is one of desolation, despair and demoralization. The result is there for all to see. Indian sports in recent years has hit the rock bottom from which God alone can save us. India's dismal performance in hockey, cricket and now tennis stand testimony to this.

Madam, it is high time sports lovers of this nation stood up and and asked as to what is happening to sports and sportsmen in this country. Was there any reason for Doordarshan to give this perverse news such wide publicity without verifying the facts? Will anyone in the Mandi House answer this? This is a very serious matter.

The circular which has been issued by the All-India Tennis Association should be immediately withdrawn. The Sports Ministry in the Government of India should take up this issue because, when there was tension against Pakistan some two, three years back, the then Government used Mr. Vijay Amritraj because of his good public relations in the United States of America. Even this weekend he is going to play tennis with George Bush in the White House lawns. Such a reputation he has got in the United States that he is an undesignated Ambassador of India, and for the betterment of India he is doing all his best. Therefore, Madam, I would request the Government, through you to stop this thing and take immediate setps to ask the Tennis Association to withdraw the circular. I would also request the Government to take steps so that a man like Mr. Khanna is thrown out of such an office. Thank you.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Honourable Members, now I have eight Special Mentions listed. This is lunch time. If the House agrees, then I will allow the Special Mentions to be made, and after lunch we can start the other business.

PROF. SOURENDRA BHATTACHARJEE (West Bengal) : Special Mentions will take another one hour.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : Yes. We will have to cut it out of the lunch hour. I would not delay the lunch hour; I will only cut it out of the the lunch hour. If the House agrees, I have no objection.

SOME HON. MEMBERS : Okay.

श्री प्रमोद महाजन (महाराष्ट्र) : इतने भूखे हैं कि हम बोल भी नहीं सकते—हां ।

उप-सभापति : मेरा भी यही हाल है ।

श्री जगदीश प्रसाद माथुर (उत्तर प्रदेश): आप बर्दाश्त कर सकती हैं । वह दुबले-पतले आदमी हैं ।

THE MINISTER OF FINANCE (PROF. MADHU DANDAVATE) : Madam, have you cut down the lunch or the lunch hour ?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN : We have cut down the lunch hour. But the Members can go and have lunch—like me !

Need to develop Samadhi of Former Prime Minister, Chaudhury Charan Singh

श्री आनन्द प्रकाश गौतम (उत्तर प्रदेश): महोदया, इस विशेष उल्लेख के माध्यम से सरकारी उपेक्षा का लगातार शिकार हो रहे किसानों के मसीहा देश के पूर्व प्रधान मंत्री भारत के महान सपूत स्व० चौधरी चरण सिंह के समाधि स्थल "किसान घाट" की ओर सरकार का ध्यान आकृष्ट करना चाहता हूं ।

किसान घाट की उपेक्षा केवल समाधि स्थल की उपेक्षा नहीं बल्कि देश के करोड़ों किसानों की भावनाओं की उपेक्षा है । कुछ यूक्लिप्टस के पेड़, झाड़झखाड़ तथा शांतिवन की तरफ से आने वाली काई से भरी सड़ांध फैलाती नहर के निकट, किसान घाट मात्र एक चबूतरा है जिसमें प्लास्टर तक नहीं है और कई जगह ईंटें भी उखड़ गई हैं । इसके आस-पास कोई बोर्ड, तख्ती या पट्टिका नहीं लगी है जिससे चबूतरे के बारे में जानकारी मिल सके । सड़क पर "किसान घाट" का एक बोर्ड जरूर लगा है और पास में बने गेट पर ताला लटकता है ।

तीन वर्ष पहले 31 मई, 1987 को इसी चबूतरे पर पूर्व प्रधान मत्री चौ. चरण सिंह का अंतिम संस्कार किया गया था । उस समय उनके दर्शन एवं शवयात्रा में भाग लेने देश के दूरदराज गांव, देहात